



# COMMANDER'S WELCOME

**Frederick L. Clapp, Jr.**

Colonel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Vicksburg District



Dear Business Partner:

I am pleased to announce the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Vicksburg District 2003 Business Conference. It will be held June 10 and 11, 2003, at the Convention Center in the historic "Red Carpet City of the South," Vicksburg, Mississippi.

The Vicksburg District Business Conference has become a favorite among our business partners. It has been proven effective in bringing together business and government to learn effective partnering and open communications that enhance business alliances and opportunities. At our last business conference, there were 50 exhibitors and 503 attendees from 22 states representing 196 organizations.

You will have an opportunity to meet and talk with my staff, as well as personnel from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C., Associated General Contractors, and the Small Business Administration. Representatives of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Minority Institutions will be available to discuss their strengths and capabilities. You will get tips and insights concerning government contracting that could greatly benefit your business.

The 2003 Business Conference workshop topics include: SBA, A Resource to All Small Businesses; Safety and Insurance; Contract Support Opportunities for Operations and Maintenance Business Functions; Discover Contracting Opportunities - Your Keys to the Corps; Insider Information - Tips to a Successful SF 255 Submission; Construction Insurance Boot Camp; Surety Underwriting 101; and HBCU Partnering with the Corps.

We have invited large and small businesses from throughout the United States to participate in this endeavor. I am excited about this year's conference and want to encourage you to take advantage of the networking opportunities available during the conference and riverboat reception on the evening of June 10, 2003.

To learn more about business opportunities with the Vicksburg District, please visit our web link <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/>. I am confident that your attendance at this year's conference will be beneficial. I look forward to seeing **YOU** there!

Sincerely,

Frederick L. Clapp, Jr.  
Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer